

Washington-Today, Congresswoman Linda T. Sánchez secured \$150,000 in federal funds for the City of La Mirada to help the city construct a long-awaited aquatic center with swimming pools at La Mirada Regional Park. Sánchez secured the funds in an appropriations bill for community development projects and other programs run by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The bill passed in the House of Representatives today by a vote of 392-31. The President has indicated that he will sign the bill into law shortly.

“Many La Mirada residents have long awaited this aquatic center. I am very pleased to have secured federal funds to help bring their dream of an aquatic center to reality,” said Congresswoman Sánchez.

Construction on the new aquatic center is expected to begin in March 2006, with the center opening in the spring of 2007.

“La Mirada’s new Aquatic Center will offer recreational, instructional, therapeutic, and competitive opportunities for all ages,” says City Manager Andrea M. Travis. “This state of the art complex will enable children to swim and explore, teens to gather and meet new friends, adults to exercise and spend time with their families, and seniors to socialize and be physically active.”

The Aquatic Center will feature a 50-meter pool, a 25-yard pool and other recreational amenities. The estimated cost is approximately \$15.5 million. The federal contribution will pay for a portion of the facility reducing the amount La Mirada has to pay from its own revenues. Other key partners in the project include the City of La Mirada, La Mirada Community Services Foundation, and Industry Hills Aquatics.

There is strong community support for construction of an Aquatic Center. A recent telephone survey of 400 La Mirada residents conducted by Godbe Research and Analysis last summer showed a majority of residents favoring the development of an Aquatic Center.